

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
Washington, D.C. 20240

BA-220



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION**

**APPLICATION — PART 1**

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

**Instructions:** Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

**PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE**

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: GRIST MILL AT ROCKLAND

Address of property: Street 2201 Old Court Road

City Brooklandville County Baltimore State Maryland Zip Code 21022

Name of historic district in which property is located Rockland Historical District

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

See Attachment No. 1

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary)

See Attachment No. 2

Date of construction (if known) approx. 1812 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known) approx. 1825,

1890, 1900, 1920, 1978

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name JOSEPH R. AZOLA

Street 300 Cathedral Street

City Baltimore State MD Zip Code 21201

Telephone Number (during day). Area Code 301 837 8844

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above

Signature Joseph R. Azola Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For office use only**

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6). ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature J. M. H. State Historic Preservation Officer Date 11-8-78

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure

☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register

Description of Physical Appearance:Exterior Appearance:

The main Mill is of load bearing stone construction. The west facade rises from the Millrace three stories, topped by a gambrel slate roof with dormers. The stone construction dates approximately 1812. A wood frame addition on the north end is two stories in height. The exterior is clad with cedar shingles, while the roof is of standing seam tin. Windows are of industrial type steel construction. The north addition was constructed sometime prior to 1890. Framing details and foundation construction indicate that it may have been built shortly after the original stone portion of the structure. A wood frame two story addition similar in appearance to that on the north end of the building exists at the south end. It was constructed on top of the original boiler room foundation sometime shortly after 1900. A shed structure of wood frame construction was subsequently added to the earlier south addition. The exterior finish of the shed was originally German siding with rolled roofing, the majority of which was destroyed during the 'Agnes' flooding in 1973. A small two story barn clad with board and batten siding, and slate roof, exists approximately 75 feet south of the main complex. Its age has not been accurately identified, but it was built sometime prior to 1890.

Landscape: The Mill buildings are situated several feet below the 100 year flood plain. The main building is approximately 50 feet west of the center line of the current Falls Road (formerly the Falls Turnpike). The original Millraces still exist, but have been dammed off at their source. The current natural setting is very much as it was, although seems to be more heavily wooded than evidenced in some old photographs. The topography is generally flat, but due to the new Falls Road construction, the ground elevation on the east side is 10 ft. higher than that on the west side of the building.

Interior Appearance:

Interior walls in the main Mill are of exposed stone. Lintels over openings are of heavy timber. Internal framing is of heavy timber post and beam, construction, with wood floor joists, wood sub flooring, and wood finished flooring. The stone walls vary in thickness from three feet to one and a half feet. Window recesses are very deep and dramatic. The interiors of all of the wood frame additions are presently of exposed wood stud construction, without insulation. The north and south additions have no columns. Joists and rafters clear span both structures. The south shed contains a post and beam bent through its center line from which rafters span to the exterior walls. Stairways were of open riser steep design, approaching ladders in some cases. No fireplaces existed. Finished woodwork consists only of window sills and thresholds here and there. Original hardware has long since disappeared. Despite neglect and vandalism over the past several decades, the Mill interior retains its character.

## ATTACHMENT NO. 2

Statement of Significance:

The present community of Brooklandville, in which the Gristmill at Rockland is located, is situated on the original Falls Turnpike. The Turnpike was opened in 1805, and shortly thereafter the Gristmill was constructed where the Jones Falls waterway intersected Falls Turnpike. The adjacent residential community was constructed to house the employees of the Mill. It is presumed that certain other structures in the neighborhood also housed goods and services necessary for the community. The present day Valley Inn located just north of the Mill on the Falls Turnpike was a Roadhouse and Inn during the time in which the Mill was active. The Mill provided the economic base for the entire community. Local farmers had their grain ground there, and it was bagged and shipped to Baltimore along the Turnpike. The significance of this structure is obvious.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Balto. Co.

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

BA-220

1. NAME			
COMMON: Rockland Grist Mill			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <del>SW corner of Falls Road and Old Court Road</del>			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: SW corner of Falls Road and Old Court Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Brooklandville			
STATE: Md.	CODE	COUNTY: Baltimore Co.	CODE
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>			
Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>			
Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>			
No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	* when in use
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: J.T.H. Johnson et al. (Dr. J.T.H. Johnson, M.D.)			
STREET AND NUMBER: Bramm Falls Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Brooklandville	STATE: Md.	CODE	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: BG Land Rec. Liber 4965, f. 565; part of parcel 204, Map 69. Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Towson,	STATE: Md.	CODE 21204	
ACREAGE	APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 229.15		
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: HABS			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1965 Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Libr. Congress			
STREET AND NUMBER: 			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE	

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

3- $\frac{1}{2}$  story stone and frame gristmill; substantial chimney; barn-like roof.

## 6. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☒

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☒losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itorian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Architecture ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

In addition to its substantial construction, this mill has passed through so many owners and changes of product as to present a capsule cross-section of industrial history, especially illustrating the attempt of Eastern mills to find some product to offset competition from the mass production mills of the West.

Built c. 1800-1810 as a flour and corn mill on Richard Gist's former estate, Turkey Cock Hall; however, "Md. House and Garden Tour Book," 1965, p. 33, listed Robert Wright as founder. Dr. Thomas Johnson purchased the mill in 1813, BCLR Liber HMF 12, f. 187. The head miller's house was at Falls Rd. and Old Court Road with a small house behind it for the second miller. In 1831 the mill was converted to a calico printing mill by a Mr. Mellier and had an output of 7 to 8000 yards/diem. It was inherited by William Fell Johnson in 1842. It was purchased in 1855 by Richard Hook and Co. It burned in 1857 with a loss of \$25,000 with suspicion of arson.

It was shown in 1877 as a blacking and coloring factory, part of the estate of W.F. Johnson. A Mr. Boss manufactured needles there at one time. It passed to a Mr. Clark who ground g flour and then sold the mill in 1894 to Thomas Wright who sold out the next year to James Bryan or Bryant who had a nearby mill at Brooklandville. In 1906, Bryan sold to Moses Garrett of Delaware; a 100-h.p. Corliss engine was installed for use at times of low water. Garrett was ruined by the dumping of large quantities of western wheat on eastern markets following the overproduction of World War I. In 1922, Garrett sold the mill to James P. Hooper who made artificial silk from New England paper pulp. That venture failed in 1927. In 1927, William Fell Johnson, descendant of both Gists and of the 19th Century ~~founder~~ owner of the same name, bought the mill and leased it to J.S. Young Co., subsidiary of Standard Foods, Inc. Harry M. Blinn was president of Std. Foods and needed a multi-story plant for mixing cake materials. The desired formula was reached after 150 tries, and the plant in 1948 turned out 2.5 million pounds of doughnut, biscuit, muffin, ~~glaze~~ gingerbread and cake mixtures. That operation ceased however and the plant has served various uses including use by Dorothy Lamour Enterprises and Wagner Spice Company.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Rockland Mill" JHU Paper in Am. Economic History, Helen Mixer, Katherine Merritt, Roger & Hecklinger, Pratt Library Md. Room VF (1937)

"Rockland Mill, 150 Years of Producing the Staff of Life," Union News, May 17, 1946

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <b>John McGrain</b>	
ORGANIZATION <b>Baltimore County Historical Society</b>	DATE <b>Aug. 30, 1971</b>
STREET AND NUMBER <b>9811 Van Buren Lane</b>	
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Cockeysville</b>	STATE <b>Md.</b> ZIP CODE <b>21030</b>

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Md.</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Baltimore Co.</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

## 1. NAME

COMMON:

**Roekland Mill -more -**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

## 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes:
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
		Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

## 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE

CODE

ACREAGE

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

Federal ☐State ☐County ☐Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY



## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent ☐Good ☐Fair ☐Deteriorated ☐Ruins ☐Unexposed ☐

INTEGRITY

(Check One)

Altered ☐Unaltered ☐

(Check One)

Moved ☐Original Site ☐

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

## 6. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century ☐  
 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century ☐

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	losophy <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	itation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

"The Rockland flour mill, eight miles from Baltimore, has been converted into an extensive calico printing establishment by Mr. Mellier, and is already printing 250 pieces, or between 7 and 8,000 yards of calico daily." Niles Weekly Register, 40:425. ~~August~~ August 27, 1831.

Wm. Fell Johnson offered to rent Rockland Print Works which had an output of 400 pieces/diem, American, July 7, 1847.

R.W. Hook's attorney offered the Rockland Mills in American, November 16, 1859, "There is on said land a fine MILL SITE, with race and dam already built."

(Mortgage by R.W. Hook as assignee of a mortgage from R.W. Hook and wife, Arsemas Schofield, Alcium Schofield, and James L. Sheridan, to Alexander Davidson, dated the 15th of March, A.D., 1856 and recorded ... Baltimore County Land Records, Liber HMF 6, f. 592 ---R.R. Boarman, Attorney.

The 1857 Robert Taylor map shows "R.W. Hook ~~and~~ & Co. Cotton Yarn Factory"

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
ORGANIZATION:	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

HABS-EDDC

BUFF

Form 2C

VII.28.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Architect's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part II)

ROCKLAND GRIST MILL      S. W. cor. Falls Rd. & Old Court  
name of structure      state, county, township, locality, etc.

3 stories - deep basement - Stone      Center Building & 2 Frame  
number of stories      type wall construction      layout  
additions - either side

GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural interest and merit - - Built in 1813 by Dr. Thomas Johnson - Frame  
additions about 1925

Condition of fabric

Good

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

EXTERIOR

Overall demensions

56' Long - 36' Deep (original Stone Bldg.)

16' " - 36' " (Frame Additions at Either End)

Foundations

Stone - Fieldstone -

Wall construction

Stone portion - Basement 2' - above 1½'

Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.

Loading stand in center, Front - only

Chimneys

1 - Brick, square - outside - massive, industrial type

Openings - doorways and doors

Large double doors facing east (front), Falls Rd. and Old Court Road - addition.

Windows and shutters - window panes 12  
windows and shutters 12

8 " symmetrical arrangement - front of building and one above doorway,  
smaller one in large dormer - and in 2 small dormers -

Roof - shape, covering

Hip - Roof - slate  
cornice, eaves

wood

dormers, cupolas

2 " - no cupola.

INTERIOR

BA 220

Floor plans (by floor)

Open - No partitions - Except for additions

Stairways

Wood - Either End

Flooring

Concrete in Basement - Otherwise Wood

Wall and ceiling finish

Painted stone walls - wood board ceiling

Doorways and doors

Doorways to either addition - from center building -

Trim

Very deep window sills - no trim

Hardware

Wrought iron

Lighting

Electric - Originally Oil Lamps

Heating (fireplaces, stoves,  
central, etc. )

Central heating (oil) . Originally stoves

Orientation (by compass reading SITE  
and general setting)

Faces East - S.E. corn. Falls Rd. & Old Court Rd., situated on Jones Falls - Mill Race  
from Jones Falls, one mile N. of Mill and a second, one-quarter mile W. of Mill, from  
Slaughter House Run.  
Enclosures (fences, etc.)

No

Outbuildings other - Miller's House - Tavern - Blacksmith shop - Homes of Mill Hands --  
all modernized and in use -

Walks, driveways, etc. - - Concrete walks - no driveways - Directly on Road - with only  
limited parking space in front of building

Landscaping, gardens, etc. -- No - but grass, stream and woodland still provides a country

Prepared by E. Frances Offutt <sup>setting for the mill</sup> (for Mr. William Fell Johnson)

Date September 18, 1966

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional  
sheets.

HABS-EDDC

BLUE

Form 3B

VII.15.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Historian's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part I)

Name of Structure ROCKLAND GRIST MILLAddress S.W. cor. Falls Rd. & Old Court Rd. Brooklandville, Baltimore County  
State, county, township, locality, street address or locationPresent Owner (give address) Mr. William Fell Johnson - Brooklandville, Baltimore Co., Md.Present Occupant Wagner Products CompanyPresent Use Manufacture of Flavoring Extracts

Brief Statement of Significance (historical): In its day provided a necessary product (the grinding of grains) for the surrounding neighborhood. Workers lived in mill houses nearby - blacksmith shop - tavern, etc. known as "The Village of Rockland"

PHYSICAL HISTORY (All statements shall be documented) Built by Dr. Thomas Johnson in 1813 (B.1766 D. 1831). Remained in family 'til 1855 when it was sold to Richard W. Hook. Original and subsequent owners - - (Title Reference HMF 12 Folio 187). It changed hands a number of times, until 1927 when the present owner purchased the Mill and Mill Houses (The Village of Rockland) at a foreclosure sale from Mr. James Hooper. This property of 8½ acres is included in the farm of 468 acres bordering on Falls Rd. known as "Rockland" -

Date of Erection - 1813 - This date is carved in stone and centered on the front of the old stone tavern built at time of other buildings (14 buildings in all)

Architect - unknown

Builder, suppliers, etc. - unknown, other than original owner Dr. Thomas Johnson

Original plans, construction, etc.

stone structure (1813) 36' X 56' - facing Falls Road (which the original owner built also)  
Water Wheel on rear of building - high industrial type, square, brick chimney, (outside) -  
Mill Race beside building.Notes on alterations and additions - - Two additions - either end of main building.  
These are wood - shingled. They balance and preserve the original symmetrical design -  
built about 1925 - when owned by Mr. James Hooper, who spent approximately \$100,000  
on improving and renovating the building.

**HISTORICAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH STRUCTURE** Between the end of the Revolutionary War & The Civil War, many mills were built on Rivers, Falls, & Branches in Baltimore County. The Rockland Mill has served the community by producing a variety of necessary goods of one form or another since 1813 - These include foods - such as flour and commeal. Also fabrics - such as calico and silk. Presently - extracts & food flavorings are manufactured

As was often true in the early history of the County, a village grew up around the mill..... in this instance, there was a blacksmith shop (now an open-type garage) a tavern, \_\_\_\_\_, the Millers home and the homes of the Mill Hands - all of stone and well constructed.

**Important old views** - - The village was advantageously located on the Old Court Road, (with location) one of the early roads leading to Towson and to Joppa - The Falls Road, the newer, followed Jones Falls and extended northward. The County was sparsely settled in 1813, and grist mills provided much needed employment in a rural economy. This is one of the few remaining mills in use and one of the few villages.

**Sources of information** - - Mr. William Fell Johnson - present owner of the Mill and the (with location) village, and a direct descendant from Thomas Johnson, the original owner. Prior to 1813 the land was owned by Edward Risteau, his house still stands near the village on the east side of Falls Rd. - called "Turkey Cock Hall". The present owner is also a descendant of the Risteaus - and his family home, built in 1831, called "Rockland" as well as the older house referred to above, are a part of the Johnson tract of 468 acres. until a few years ago 568 acres, but the State condemned about 100 acres for expressways on the outer rim of the property to the east & south. It is one of the few large tracts of undeveloped land remaining in the area.

Prepared by E. Frances Offutt  
(for Mr. Wm. Fell Johnson)  
Date Sept. 18, 1966

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCUMENTATION


**Published references:** Give author's full name, exact title from title page (underlined), publisher, place of publication, date, page references.

**Manuscript references:** Give location of manuscript and note if long-hand or typed. Cite "from," "to," date, etc.

**Interviews:** If information came from a personal interview, give complete name and address of informant.

**CONTINUATIONS:** Any of the above entries may be continued on additional sheets. Exact transcripts in quotes from pertinent documents are especially welcomed as appendices or otherwise.

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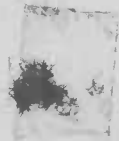
1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>Baltimore</b> TOWN VICINITY <b>Dist. IX</b> STREET NO. <b>s.w. corner Falls Road and</b> <b>2201 Old Court Road</b> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <b>BA-221 420</b>	
		2. NAME <b>Rockland Mill</b> DATE OR PERIOD <b>1813</b> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <p>A large three-story structure of fieldstone, two frame additions in 1925. Its special features include a massive industrial type chimney, loading platform and numerous large windows, twelve over twelve. Originally a grist mill, the mill race is still there; formerly a huge water wheel was on the west side of the building. The mill was built by Dr. Thomas Johnson in 1813 and sold in 1855; it changed hands a number of times until 1927 when Mr. William Fell Johnson repurchased it. The building is used today for the manufacture of flavoring extracts.</p> <p>(second HABS report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE    Endangered    Interior    Exterior			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)  b&w photo neg. rec'd 9/15/70 MHT - color slides			
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		7. PHOTOGRAPH 9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  DATE OF RECORD	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTO GRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE





BA-220  
Rockland Grist Mill





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Rockland Grist Mill

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